

Memorandum

To:

LIANA CHASE

From:

BRENDA PHILLIPS, OFFICE OF COUNSEL, COASTAL SYSTEMS STATION

Date:

9/18/2002

Re:

Ser No. 09/030518

Per our conversation 9 Sep 02, enclosed please find copies of all documentation from subject patent application. Hopefully this will help speed up reconstruction process.

If you need additional information please contact me at (850) 234-4940.

Thanks,

Brenda Phillips Legal Assistant Coastal Systems Station 6703 W. Hwy. 98 Panama City FL 32407-7001

GROUP 3600

1



Cc. FAL SYSTEMS STATION, DAHLGREN L. SION 6703 West Hwy. 98, Code CP20L Panama City, FL 32407-7001 tel (850) 234-4646 or (850) 234-4940 fax (850) 235-5497

fax

transmittal

to:	CHRISTINA DONNEL
Fax #:	703-308-6916
From:	BRENDA PHILLIPS
Date:	June 18, 2002
re:	Ser 09/030,518 (78,635)
Pages:	9 Pages, including fax cover sheet

GROUP 3600

Per our conversation 6/17/02, attached are copies of return receipt card from USPTO, Fee Transmittal for FY 2000, certificate of mailing, Response to Notice of Abandonment (Petition), Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due, Office Log. Please reinstate.

THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS FACSIMILE MESSAGE IS LEGALLY PRIVILEGED AND CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION INTENDED ONLY FOR THE USE OF THE INDIVIDUAL OR ENTITY NAMED ABOVE. IF THE READER OF THIS MESSAGE IS NOT THE INTENDED RECIPIENT, YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT ANY DISSEMINATION, DISTRIBUTION OR COPY OF THIS TELECOPY IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED. IF YOU HAVE RECEIVED THIS TELECOPY IN ERROR, PLEASE IMMEDIATELY NOTIFY US BY TELEPHONE AND RETURN THE ORIGINAL MESSAGE TO US AT THE ABOVE ADDRESS BY UNITED STATES MAIL. THANK YOU.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

re application of:

GARCIA, FELIPE, ET AL.

Serial No.: 09/030,518

Filed: FEBRUARY 23, 1998 For: LINE CHARGE CONNECTOR Examiner: J. HOWELL

Art Unit: 3641

RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF ABANDONMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The above identified application became "abandoned for failure to timely pay the required issue fee" within the statutory period of three months from the mailing date of March 2, 1999. Abandonment was issued by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) on July 24, 2000.

The Office of Patent Counsel at the U.S. Navy's Coastal Systems Station, Panama City, Florida replied to the Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due of 3/2/99 with the Issue Fee Transmittal signed by Harvey A. Gilbert, the Attorney of Record, and dated 4/6/99. Certificate of Mailing was signed by Brenda Phillips, Legal Assistant for the Office of Patent Counsel, dated 4/6/99. A copy of this documentation is enclosed. Also enclosed is a copy of this office's Patent Activity Log verifying that this action was taken. This indicates that the issue fee in the amount of \$1210.00 was sent to the USPTO on 4/6/99 amount of \$1210.00 was sent to the USPTO on 4/6/99. 10/27/2004 AKELLEY

With this information, it appears that the Issue Fee



30 PTO 30-14-02

NAVY CASE NO.

78,635

SERIAL NO.

09/030,518

APPLICANT

GARCIA, FELIPE ET AL.

Receipt of the following application papers is evidenced hereon by official stamp of the U. S. Patent and Trademark Office:

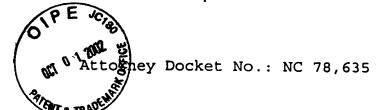
Response to Notice of Abandonment
Copy of Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due
Copy of Patent Log
Certificate of Mail
Card
Transmittal Fee

NAVONR 5870/51 (Pev.8-94)

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

GARCIA, FELIPE ET AL.

Serial No.:

09/030,518

Filing Date:

February 23, 1998

For: LINE CHARGE CONNECTOR

Art Unit: 3641

Examiner: J. HOWELL

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF ABANDONMENT OF JULY 24, 2000

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION (37 C.F.R.1.6(d) and (1.8)

I hereby certify that these papers, along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed, were mailed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 at the United States Patent & Trademark Office, on the date shown below:

Βv

Date:

8/10/0"

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OCT 0 7 2002

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PTO/SB/17 (12/99)
Approved for use through 09/30/2000. OMB 0651-0032
Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

for FY 2000

Patent fees are subject to annual revision.

Small Entity payments must be supported by a small entity statement, otherwise large entity fees must be paid. See Forms PTO/SB/09-12. See 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.27 and 1.28.

WARNING:

TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT

(\$) 1320.00

Co	omplete if Known
Application Number	09/030,518
Filing Date	Feb 23, 1998
First Named Inventor	Garcia, Felipe et al.
Examiner Name	J. Howell
Group / Art Unit	3641
Attorney Docket No.	78,635

FEE CALCIN ATION (seediment)

METHOD OF PAYMENT (check one)		re	E CALCULA	ION (cont	inuea)	•
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge indicated fees and credit any overpayments to:	Foe Fee	Small Entity Fee Fee	,	escription		Fee Paid
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SUBTOTAL (1) (\$)	141 1,210	241 605	Petition to revive			
2. EXTRA CLAIM FEES	142 1,210	242 605	Utility issue fee (o	ır reissue)		1210.00
Extra Claims below Fee Paid	143 430	243 215	Design issue fee			
Total Claims20** = X =	144 580	244 290	Plant issue fee			
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Name (PrintType) HARVEY A. GILBERT,		tration No.	27331	Telephone	850-234	4-4646
Signature - Classification Signature	Lost	-yy, <u>1</u>		Date	8/15	

information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office. Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.





UNITED STATES .PARTMENT OF COMMERCE Patent and Trademark Office

RECEIVED

GROUP 3600

NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND ISSUE FEE DUE

PM51/0300 COASTAL SYSTEM STATION DAHLGREEN DIVISIO MAVAL SURFACE WARFARE CENTER 6700 WEST HIGHWAY 98 COOK CR2L PANAMA CITY FL S2407-7001

Unda Phillip

APPLI	CATION NO.	FILING DATE	TOTAL CLAIMS	EXAMINED AND COOLS ASSESSED		·
	09/030.5	18 02/23/A	98 011	HOWELL J	36	#1 03/52/99
First Named Applicant	GARCIA	•	35	USC 154(b) term ext. =	Ü	Davs.
TITLE OF	LINE CHARG	SE CONNECTOR				

ATTY'S DOCKET NO.	CLASS-SUBCLASS	BATCH NO.	APPLN	I. TYPE	SMAL	L ENTITY	FEE DUE	DATE DUE
3 70695	089-	-001.130	PS (UTIL	<u>I</u> TY	M(3	#1210.0	
								- QW/ Q4/ FI

HARVEY A. GILBERT

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED. DONALD G. PECK

THE ISSUE FEE MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED.

10W TO RESPOND TO THIS NOTICE:

Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above. If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES yegify you mericall the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO: current SMALL ENTITY Status ecretary of the Nav

A. If Inesitátustis changed, pay twice the amount of the FEE DUE shown above and notify the Patent and Trademark Office of the change in status, or X

B. If the status is the same, pay the FEE DUE shown above_-

A. Pay FEE DUE shown above, or

98-0814

B. File verified statement of Small Entity Status before, or with, payment of 1/2 the FEE DUE shown above.

Part B-Issue Fee Transmittal should be completed and returned to the Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) with your ISSUE FEE. Even if the ISSUE FEE has already been paid by charge to deposit account, Part B Issue Fee Transmittal should be completed and returned. If you are charging the ISSUE FEE to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B-Issue Fee Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted.

I. All communications regarding this application must give application number and batch number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Box ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

APORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.

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Office Actions, Patent Applications, Issue Fee, Patents Issued, Drawings



NAVY CASE NO

78,6

SERIAL NO.

518, بد 09/0

APPLICANT

GARCIA, FELIPE ET AL.

Receipt of the following application papers is evidenced hereon by official stamp of the U. S. Patent and Trademark Office:

Response to Notice of Abandonment Copy of Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due Copy of Patent Log Certificate of Mail

Card

Transmittal Fee

AUG 1 8 2000 &

NAVONR 5870/51 (Rev.8-94)

RECEIVED
OCT 0 7 2002
GROUP 3600





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231

APPLICATION NUMBER FILING DATE FIRST NAMED APPLICANT ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 09/030,518 02/23/98 GARCIA

7542/0724 COASTAL SYSTEM STATION DAHLGREEN DIVIS NAVAL SURFACE WARFARE CENTER CETTY 6700 MEST HIGHWAY 98 CUDMES CETTY Parkama 0177 FL 32407-700

EXAMINER HOWELL, J ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER 3641 DATE MAILED:

NOTICE OF ABANDONMENT

	application is abandoned in view of:	`1
	Applicant's failure to timely file a proper response to the Office letter mailed on	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
	A response (with a Certificate of Mailing or Transmission of, which is after the expiration of the period for response (ir time ofmonth(s)) which expired on	
	A proposed response was received on, but it does not consrejection.	stitute a proper response to the final
	(A proper response to a final rejection consists only of: a timely filed amendment condition for allowance; a Notice of Appeal; or the filing of a continuing application	
	No response has been received.	,
M	Applicant's failure to timely pay the required issue fee within the statutory period of the Notice of Allowance.	ree months from the mailing date
	The issue fee (with a Certificate of Mailing or Transmission of	_) was received on
	☐ The submitted issue fee of \$is insufficient. The issue fee required by	37 CFR 1.18 is \$
	The issue fee has not been received.	\mathcal{Q}
	Applicant's failure to timely file new formal drawings as required in the Notice of Allow	vability.
	Proposed new formal drawings (with a Certificate of Mailing or Transmission of	vability. ble. ad on
	☐ The proposed new formal drawings filed are not accepta	ble.
	☐ No proposed new formal drawings have been received.	ğ
	The express abandonment under 37 CFR 1.62(g) in favor of the FWC application file	ed on
	The letter of express abandonment which is signed by the attorney or agent of record interest, or all of the applicants.	d, the assignee of the entire
	The letter of express abandonment which is signed by an attorney or agent (acting in 37 CFR 1.34(a) upon the filing of a continuing application.	n a representative capacity under
	The decision by the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences rendered on for seeking court review of the decision has expired and there are no allowed claims.	•
FOR	The reason(s) below:	ABANDONMENT CONTACT PERSON IS: TOM HAWKINS 305-8380





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE Patent and Trademark Office

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OCT 07 2002

NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND ISSUE FEE DUE

GROUP 3600

PM51/0302 COASTAL SYSTEM STATION DAHLGREEN DIVISIO NAVAL SURFACE WARFARE CENTER

PANAMA CITY FL 32407-7001

6703 WEST HIGHWAY 98 CODE CP2L

APPLIC	ATION NO.	FILING DATE	TOTAL CLAIMS	EXAMINER AND GROUP ART UNIT	.*	DATE MAILED
	09/030.51	8 02/23/	98 011	HOWELL, J	3641	00/ 0 2/99
First Named Applicant	GARCIA		.3'5	USC 154(b) term ext. =	0 Da	vs.

TITLE OF LINE CHARGE COMMECTOR INVENTION

ATTY'S DOCK	KET NO.	CLASS-SUBCLASS	BATCH NO.	APPLN	. TYPE	SMALI	. ENTITY	FEE DUE	DATE DUE
.3	78305	089	-001130	PSI	UTIL	LTY	5403	#340(10,00	06/02/99

HARVEY A. GILBERT

9\$-0814

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED. DONALD G. PECK

THE ISSUE FEE MUST BE PAID WITHIN <u>THREE MONTHS</u> FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED.

HOW TO RESPOND TO THIS NOTICE:

I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above. If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, yegify you meritalify SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO: current SMALL ENTITY Status Secretary of the Nav

A. If the status is changed, pay twice the amount of the FEE DUE shown above and notify the Patent and Trademark Office of the change in status, or X

B. If the status is the same, pay the FEE DUE shown above.

A. Pay FEE DUE shown above, or

B. File verified statement of Small Entity Status before, or with. payment of 1/2 the FEE DUE shown above.

- II. Part B-Issue Fee Transmittal should be completed and returned to the Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) with your ISSUE FEE. Even if the ISSUE FEE has already been paid by charge to deposit account, Part B Issue Fee Transmittal should be completed and returned. If you are charging the ISSUE FEE to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B-Issue Fee Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted.
- III. All communications regarding this application must give application number and batch number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Box ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.

-YOUR COPY

OLD E SCIEN	•			
Natice of Allowability	Application No. 09/030,518	Applicant(s)	Felipe (Garcia
THE TRACE.	Examiner Jeffrey Hov	veli	Group Art Uni 3641	t
All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE ME herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance mailed in due course.	ERITS IS (OR REMAINS) and Issue Fee Due or ot	CLOSED in t her appropri	his applicatio ate communi	n. If not included cation will be
∑ This communication is responsive to the amendment	nt filed on 1/25/99	_		
☐ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-11			P	ECEIVED
∑ The drawings filed onare acceptable.				
Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign pri		119(a)-(d)		OCT 07 2002
☐ All ☐ Some* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED col			peen G	ROUP 360
received in Application No. (Series Code/Seria				
received in this national stage application from		u (PCT Rule	17.2(a)).	
*Certified copies not received:		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		· .
Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic	priority under 35 U.S.C.	§ 119(e).		
A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR RESPONSE THREE MONTHS FROM THE "DATE MAILED" of this CABANDONMENT of this application. Extensions of time	Office action. Failure to	timely como	ly will result i	in
Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or Note that the oath or declaration is deficient. A SUBSTIT	OTICE OF INFORMAL AI	PPLICATION	. PTO-152. v	
[] Applicant MUST submit NEW FORMAL DRAWINGS				
\square because the originally filed drawings were declar	ed by applicant to be inf	ormal.		
including changes required by the Notice of Draft to Paper No	tsperson's Patent Drawin	ng Review, P	PTO-948, atta	iched hereto or
including changes required by the proposed draw approved by the examiner.	ving correction filed on _		, wh	nich has been
$oxedsymbol{ o}$ including changes required by the attached Exam	niner's Amendment/Com	ment.		
Identifying indicia such as the application number (so drawings. The drawings should be filed as a separa Draftsperson.	ee 37 CFR 1.84(c)) shou te paper with a transmit	ld be writter tal lettter add	n on the reve dressed to th	rse side of the e Official
☐ Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding R	EQUIREMENT FOR THE	DEPOSIT OF	BIOLOGICAL	MATERIAL.
Any response to this letter should include, in the upper CODE/SERIAL NUMBER). If applicant has received a No and DATE of the NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE should also	otice of Allowance and Is			
Attachment(s)				
Notice of References Cited, PTO-892				
Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449,				
★ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, ★ D	, PTO-948			
☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152				İ
Interview Summary, PTO-413Examiner's Amendment/Comment				,
Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for	Deposit of Biological Ma	terial	Charle	s T. Jordan
X Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance	- Charles or Groundstate Mile		Supervisory	Patent Examiner up 3600

U. S. Patent and Trademark Office PTO-37 (Rev. 9-95) Application/Control Number: 09/030518 Page 2

Art Unit: 3641

Drawings

1. The corrected or substitute drawings were received on 1/25/99. These drawings are acceptable.

Allowable Subject Matter

- 2. Claims 1-11 are allowed.
- 3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The primary reason for the allowance of the claims in this case, is the inclusion of a clip that positions the ends of two detonating cords together included in the independent claim, in combination with the other elements recited.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jeffrey Howell whose telephone number is (703) 305-0886. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jeffrey Howell whose telephone number is (703) 305-0886. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM.

Art Unit: 3641

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor,

Charles Jordan, can be reached on (703) 306-4159. The fax phone number for the organization

where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 306-4195.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding

should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 306-4177.

Charles T. Jordan Supervisory Patent Examiner Group 3600



REM"

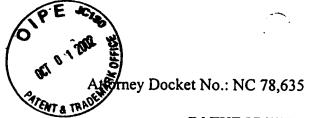
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE-Patent and Trademark Office

Application No. <u>09/0305/8</u>

NOTICE OF DRAFTPERSON'S PATENT DRAWING REVIEW

PRAWINGS. 37 CFR 1.84(a): Acceptable categories of drawings: lack ink. Color. Color drawing are not acceptable until petition is granted. Fig.(s) Pencil and non black ink is not permitted. Fig(s) HOTOGRAPHS. 37 CFR 1.84(b) Photographs are not acceptable until petition is granted, 3 full-tone sets are required. Fig(s) Photographs not properly mounted (must brystol board or photographic double-weight paper). Fig(s) Poor quailty (half-tone). Fig(s) YPE OF PAPER. 37 CFR 1.84(e) Paper not flexible, strong, white and durable. Fig.(s) Frasures, alterations, overwritings, interlineations, folds, copy machine marks not acceptable. (too thin) Mylar, vellum paper is not acceptable (too thin). Fig(s)	7. SECTIONAL VIEWS. 37 CFR 1.84(h)(3) Hatching not indicated for sectional portions of an object. Fig.(s)						
Fig.(s)	Fig.(s)						
Pencil and non black ink is not permitted. Fig(s)	_						
HOTOGRAPHS. 37 CFR 1.84(b) Photographs are not acceptable until petition is granted, 3 full-tone sets are required. Fig(s) Photographs not properly mounted (must brystol board or photographic double-weight paper). Fig(s) Poor quailty (half-tone). Fig(s) YPE OF PAPER. 37 CFR 1.84(e) Paper not flexible, strong, white and durable. Fig.(s) Erasures, alterations, overwritings, interlineations, folds, copy machine marks not acceptable. (too thin) Mylar, yellum paper is not acceptable (too thin).	Sectional designation should be noted with Arabic or						
Photographs are not acceptable until petition is granted, 3 full-tone sets are required. Fig(s) Photographs not properly mounted (must brystol board or photographic double-weight paper). Fig(s) Poor quailty (half-tone). Fig(s) YPE OF PAPER. 37 CFR 1.84(e) Paper not flexible, strong, white and durable. Fig.(s) Erasures, alterations, overwritings, interlineations, folds, copy machine marks not acceptable. (too thin) Mylar, vellum paper is not acceptable (too thin).	Roman numbers. Fig.(s)						
3 full-tone sets are required. Fig(s)	8. ARRANGEMENT OF VIEWS. 37 CFR 1.84(i)						
Photographs not properly mounted (must brystol board or photographic double-weight paper). Fig(s) Poor quailty (half-tone). Fig(s) YPE OF PAPER. 37 CFR 1.84(e) Paper not flexible, strong, white and durable. Fig.(s) Erasures, alterations, overwritings, interlineations, folds, copy machine marks not acceptable. (too thin) Mylar, vellum paper is not acceptable (too thin).	Words do not appear on a horizontal, left-to-right fashion when						
photographic double-weight paper). Fig(s) Poor quailty (half-tone). Fig(s) YPE OF PAPER. 37 CFR 1.84(e) Paper not flexible, strong, white and durable. Fig.(s) Erasures, alterations, overwritings, interlineations, folds, copy machine marks not acceptable. (too thin) Mylar, vellum paper is not acceptable (too thin).	page is either upright or turned, so that the top becomes the righ						
Poor quailty (half-tone). Fig(s) YPE OF PAPER. 37 CFR 1.84(e) Paper not flexible, strong, white and durable. Fig.(s) Erasures, alterations, overwritings, interlineations, folds, copy machine marks not acceptable. (too thin) Mylar, vellum paper is not acceptable (too thin).	side, except for graphs. Fig.(s)						
PAPER. 37 CFR 1.84(e) Paper not flexible, strong, white and durable. Fig.(s) Erasures, alterations, overwritings, interlineations, folds, copy machine marks not acceptable. (too thin) Mylar, vellum paper is not acceptable (too thin).	Views not on the same plane on drawing sheet. Fig.(s)						
Paper not flexible, strong, white and durable. Fig.(s) Erasures, alterations, overwritings, interlineations, folds, copy machine marks not acceptable. (too thin) Mylar, vellum paper is not acceptable (too thin).	9. SCALE, 37 CFR 1.84(k)						
Fig.(s) Erasures, alterations, overwritings, interlineations, folds, copy machine marks not acceptable. (too thin) Mylar, vellum paper is not acceptable (too thin).	Scale not large enough to show mechansim without crowding						
Erasures, alterations, overwritings, interlineations, folds, copy machine marks not acceptable. (too thin) Mylar, vellum paper is not acceptable (too thin).	when drawing is reduced in size to two-thirds in reproduction.						
folds, copy machine marks not acceptable. (too thin) Mylar, vellum paper is not acceptable (too thin).	Fig.(s)						
	10. CHARACTER OF LINES, NUMBERS, & LETTERS. 37 CFR 1.84(1) Lines, numbers & letters not uniformly thick and well defined, clean, durable and black (poor line quality).						
Fig(s)							
- 'B'' /	Fig.(s)						
IZE OF PAPER. 37 CFR 1.84(F): Acceptable sizes:							
21.0 cm by 29.7 cm (DIN size A4)	Solid black areas pale. Fig.(s)						
21.6 cm by 27.9 cm (8 1/2 x 11 inches)	Solid black shading not permitted. Fig.(s)						
All drawings sheets not the same size.	Shade lines, pale, rough and blurred. Fig.(s)						
Sheet(s)	12. NUMBERS, LETTERS, & REFERENCE CHARACTERS.						
1ARGINS. 37 CFR 18.4(g): Acceptable margins:	37 CFR 1.48(p)						
Top 2.5 cm Left 2.5 cm Right 1.5 cm Bottom 1.0 cm SIZE: A4 Size	Numbers and reference characters not plain and legible. Fig.(s)						
Top 2.5 cm Left 2.5 cm Right Rottom 1.0 cm SIZE: 8 1/2 x 11	Figure legends are poor. Fig.(s)						
Margins not acc	Numbers and reference characters not oriented in the same						
Top (T)							
Righ							

OCT 0.7 2002 GROUP 360



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Robert Woodall et al.

Serial No.:

For:

09/030,518

Filing Date:

February 23, 1997

LINE CHARGE CONNECTOR

Art Unit:

3641

Examiner:

J. Howell

RESPONSE TO EXAMINER'S ACTION

RECEIVED

OCT 0.7 2002

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Box No Fee Amendment Washington, D.C. 20231

GROUP 3600

Sir:

The following remarks are submitted in response to the Examiner's Action mailed

December 3, 1998 in the above-identified application. A shortened statutory period of three

months, expiring on March 3, 1998, was given for this filing in response to the Examiner's

Action. This response is therefore timely submitted with a certificate of transmission under 37

C.F.R. 1.8(a) before expiration of the period for response. Entry of the response into the

application under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.115 is respectfully requested.

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION (37 C.F.R.1.6(d) and (1.8)

I hereby certify that these papers, along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed, were mailed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 at the United States Patent & Trademark Office, on the date shown below:

By: Harried O. Hill

Date:

1/18/99

off of the savy Case No. 78,635

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

FELIPE GARCIA ET AL.

Serial No.: 09/030,518

Filed: February 23, 1998 For: LINE CHARGE CONNECTOR Examiner: J. HOWELL

Art Unit: 3641

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AMENDMENT

OCT 07 2002

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

GROUP 3600

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated December 3, 1998, amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

In the Specification

Page 8, line 6, between "cord" and "and" insert --18--, between "boosters" and "by" delete "18" and substitute therefor --18'--.

Page 10, line 2, delete "tolls" and substitute therefor -tools--;

line 21, delete "35" and substitute therefor -- 33--.

Page 14, line 5, delete "18".

In the Claims

Claim 1, line 4, between "of" and "detonating" insert --a-

Claim 3, line 4, between "strength" and "between" insert -members--.

Navy Case No. 78,635

Claim 6, line 2, delete "outed" and substitute therefor -- outer--.

Remarks

This is a complete response to the Office Action dated December 3, 1998.

Claims 1-11 remain in this application.

Objections to the Drawings

The objections to the drawings of paragraph 1 have been corrected by amendment to show reference characters "19" and "17a" on Figures 1 and 2 of Formal Drawings, included herewith, and as shown in red on a copy of these figures.

The objection to the drawings of paragraph 2 has been corrected by amendment which correctly designates detonating cord booster "18'" on line 6 of page 8.

The objection to the drawings of paragraph 3 has been corrected by amendment which substitutes reference character "33" for reference character "35" on line 21 of page 10.

Objections to the Specification

The objections to the disclosure of paragraph 4 have been corrected by amendment which substitutes "tools" for "tolls" on line 2 of page 10, and number "18" has been deleted by amendment from line 5 of page 14.

Claim Objections

The objections to claims 1 and 6 of paragraph 5 have been

Navy Case No. 78,635

corrected by amendments to these claims as suggested by the Examiner.

Rejection of Claims 3-11 Under U.S.C. 112, Second Paragraph

Claims 3-11 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

The Office Action identified the objectionable term "said strength" in line 4 of claim 3 since there was no antecedent basis for this term.

Line 4 of claim 3 has been amended to correctly recite "said strength members" which has antecedent basis in parent claim 1.

Withdrawal of this ground of rejection is requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1 and 2 were allowed.

Claims 3-11 would be allowable if amended to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2^{nd} paragraph. These claims have been so amended and are allowable.

All the claims define a patentably significant advance in the state of the art in definite form and free of the art.

Accordingly, an early Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Navy Case No. 78,635

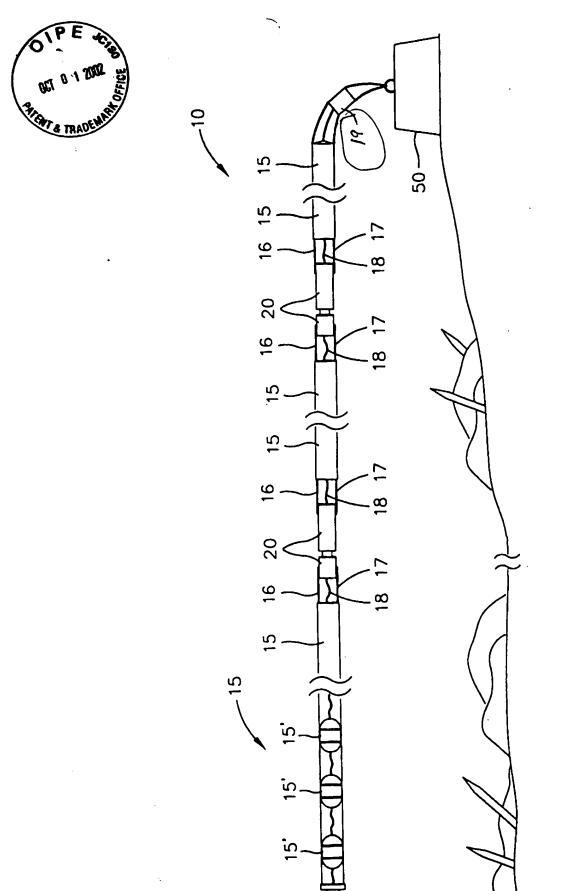
Respectfully submitted,

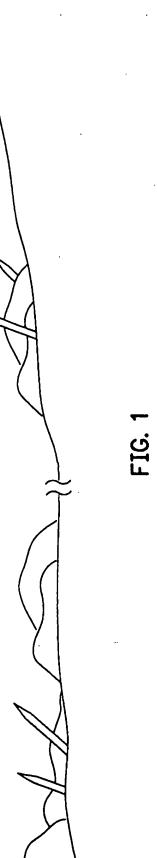
HARVEY A. GILBERT

Attorney of Record

Registration No. 27,331

H Gilbert COASTSYSSTA DAHLGREN DIV NSWC Panama City, FL 32407-7001 (850) 234-4646 29 December 1998





avy Case No. 78,635

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

n re application of: FELIPE GARCIA ET AL.

Serial No.: 09/030,518

Filed: February 23, 1998 For: LINE CHARGE CONNECTOR Examiner: J. HOWELL

Art Unit: 3641

Letter to the Official Draftsman

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

Subject to the Examiner's approval, corrected formal drawings are submitted. A copy showing the proposed changes in red is included herewith.

Respectfully submitted,

HARVEY A. GILBERT Attorney of Record

Registration No. 27,331

H Gilbert COASTSYSSTA DAHLGREN DIV NSWC Panama City, FL 32407-7001 (850) 234-4646 29 December 1998

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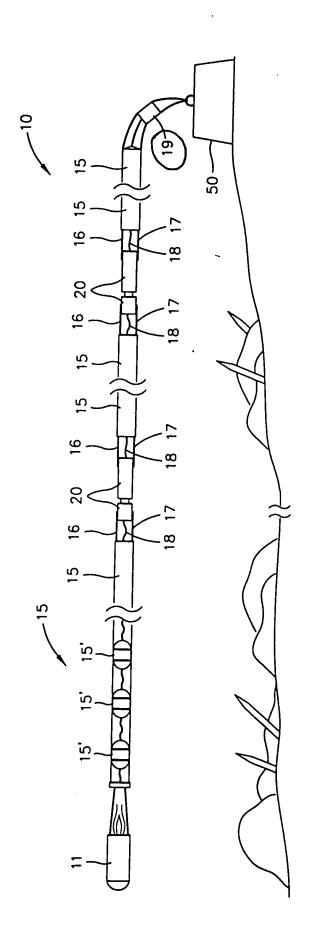
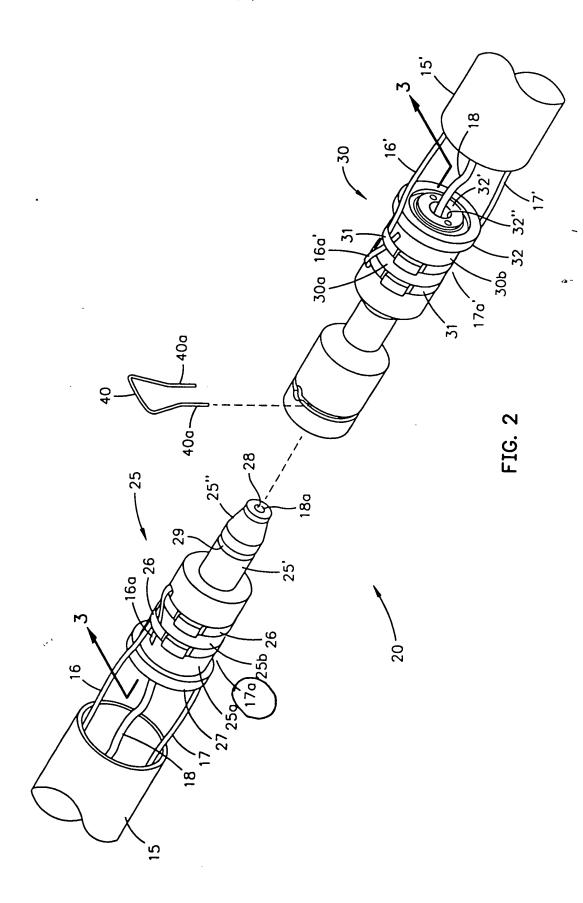


FIG. 1







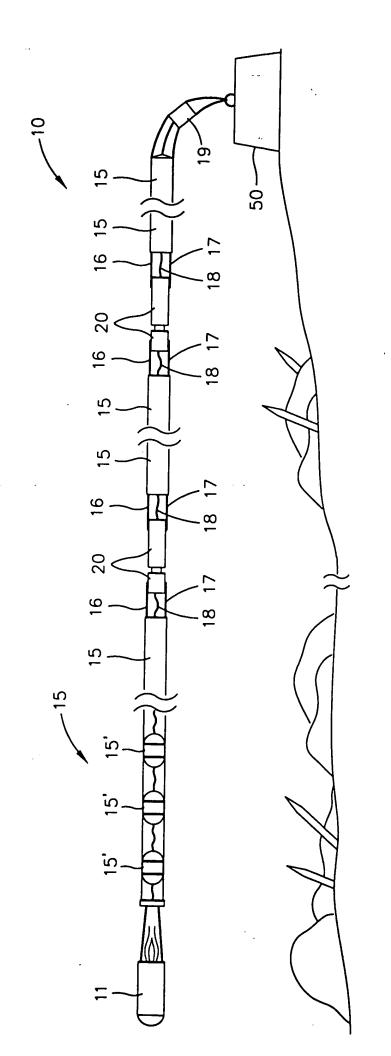


FIG. 1

FLING RECEIPT



UNITED STATEL EPARTMENT OF COMMERCE Patent and Trademark Office ASSISTANT SECRETARY AND COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS Washington, D.C. 20231

APPLICATION NUMBER FILING DATE GRP ART UNIT FIL FEE REC'D ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. DRWGS TOT CL IND CL

09/030,518 02/23/98 3722 \$790.00 78635 3 11 1

COASTAL SYSTEM STATION DAHLGREEN DIVISIONAVAL SURFACE WARFARE CENTER 6703 WEST HIGHWAY 98 CODE CP2L PANAMA CITY FL 32407-7001

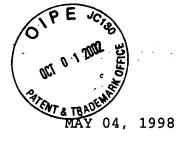
Receipt is acknowledged of this nonprovisional Patent Application. It will be considered in its order and you will be notified as to the results of the examination. Be sure to provide the U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER, FILING DATE, NAME OF APPLICANT, and TITLE OF INVENTION when inquiring about this application. Fees transmitted by check or draft are subject to collection. Please verify the accuracy of the data presented on this receipt. If an error is noted on this Filing Receipt, please write to the Application Processing Division's Customer Correction Branch within 10 days of receipt. Please provide a copy of the Filing Receipt with the changes noted thereon.

Applicant(s)

FELIPE GARCIA, PANAMA CITY, FL; ROBERT WOODALL, LYNN HAVEN, FL; GILBERTO IRIZARRY, PANAMA CITY BEACH, FL.

FOREIGN FILING LICENSE GRANTED 04/30/98 TITLE LINE CHARGE CONNECTOR

PRELIMINARY CLASS:





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE Patent and Trademark Office

ASSISTANT SECRETARY AND COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS Washington, D.C. 20231

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HARVEY A. GILBERT OFFICE OF COUNSEL, CODE CP2L 6703 W HWY 98 PANAMA CITY, FL 32407-7001



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE NOTICE OF RECORDATION OF ASSIGNMENT DOCUMENT

THE ENCLOSED DOCUMENT HAS BEEN RECORDED BY THE ASSIGNMENT DIVISION OF THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE. A COMPLETE MICROFILM COPY IS AVAILABLE AT THE ASSIGNMENT SEARCH ROOM ON THE REEL AND FRAME NUMBER REFERENCED BELOW.

PLEASE REVIEW ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED ON THIS NOTICE. THE INFORMATION CONTAINED ON THIS RECORDATION NOTICE REFLECTS THE DATA PRESENT IN THE PATENT AND TRADEMARK ASSIGNMENT SYSTEM. IF YOU SHOULD FIND ANY ERRORS OR HAVE QUESTIONS CONCERNING THIS NOTICE, YOU MAY CONTACT THE EMPLOYEE WHOSE NAME APPEARS ON THIS NOTICE AT 703-308-9723. PLEASE SEND REQUEST FOR CORRECTION TO: U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE, ASSIGNMENT DIVISION, BOX ASSIGNMENTS, NORTH TOWER BUILDING, SUITE 10C35, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231.

RECORDATION DATE: 02/17/1998

REEL/FRAME: 9010/0543 NUMBER OF PAGES: 2

BRIEF: ASSIGNMENT OF ASSIGNOR'S INTEREST (SEE DOCUMENT FOR DETAILS).

ASSIGNOR:

GARCIA, FELIPE

DOC DATE: 02/17/1998

ASSIGNOR:

WOODALL, ROBERT

DOC DATE: 02/17/1998

ASSIGNOR:

IRIZARRY, GILBERTO

DOC DATE: 02/17/1998

ASSIGNEE:

NAVY, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AS REPRESENTED BY THE SECRETARY, THE BALLSTON TOWER ONE

PALLSTON TOWER ONE 800 N. QUINCY STREET ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA 22217-5660

SERIAL NUMBER: 09030518

PATENT NUMBER:

FILING DATE: 02/23/1998

ISSUE DATE:

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OCT 07 2002

GROUP 3600

9010/0543 PAGE 2

LAWAN FLETCHER, EXAMINER ASSIGNMENT DIVISION OFFICE OF PUBLIC RECORDS

03-10-196	581-40.w
ut 0. 10-199	98 EET
the Honor ble Commissioner of Pa 100657136	attached original documents of copy
1. Name of conveying party(ies):	2. Name & address of receiving party(ies):
FELIPE GARCIA, ROBERT WOODALL and GILBERTO IRIZARRY	Name: The United States of America as Represented by the Secretary of the Navy
 Additional name(s) of conveying party(ies) attached _yes/	Internal Address: Chief of Naval Research,
3. Nature of conveyance:	Office of Counsel, Code OOCC
✓ Assignment Merger Security Agreement Change of Name Other	Street Address: Ballston Tower One 800 N. Quincy Street
Execution Date:Other	City: ArlIngton State: VA Zip: 22217-5660
	Additional name(s) & address(es) attached?yes/ no
If this document is being filed together with a new application, the execution A. Patent Application No.(s) B. Patent No.(s) Navy Case No.: 78,635 Serial No.:	date of the application is: RECEIVEI 0CT 0 7 2002 GROUP 36
O 9 03 0518 Additional numbers att 5. Name and address of party to whom correspondence concerning	tached _yes/ ∠ no 6. Total number of applications and patents involved: 1
document should be mailed:	_
Name: HARVEY A. GILBERT Internal Address: OFFICE OF COUNSEL, CODE CP2L COASTAL SYSTEMS STATION DAHLGREN DIVISION	7. Total fee (37 CFR 3.41)\$_40.00 Enclosed/ Authorized to be charged to deposit account
Street Address: 6703 W HWY 98	8. Deposit Account Number: 04-0814
City: PANAMA CITY State: FL Zip: 32407-7001	(Attach duplicate copy of this page if paying by deposit account)
1998 HHUNTER 00000010 DAB: 040814 09030518 DO NOT USE TH	IIS SPACE
9. Statement and signature:	
To the best of my knowledge and belief, the foregoing information is true and of document. HARVEY A. GILBERT Reg. No. 27331	correct and any attached copy is a true copy of the original
Name of Person Signing Signature	Date ⁷
CERTIFICATE OF MAILIN	G (37 CFR §1.8a)
I hereby certify that these papers, along with any paper referred to as being attached or end below with sufficient postage in an envelope addressed to the: Commissioner of Patents are	
By: HARVEY A. GILBERT Patent Counsel Registration No. 27331	Date: 2/17/98
	mber of pages including, cover sheet, attachments, and document:

ASSIGNMENT

WHEREAS, We, FELIPE GARCIA, ROBERT WOODALL, and GILBERTO IRIZARRY while employed by the Government of the United States, have invented certain new and useful improvements in:

LINE CHARGE CONNECTOR

identified as Navy	Case No. 78,635 described in application	on for Letters Patent of the United	States of America executed by
me on	February 17	, 19 <u>98</u> ; and	
WHEREAS, the Gothe Government, is benefits herein gra	overnment of the United States, repress desirous of acquiring an assignment onted; and	ented by the Secretary of the Navy f the invention disclosed in said a	y and hereinafter referred to as pplication and other rights and
WHEREAS, the co	onditions under which the invention was r 10096, to the entire right, title and int	made are such as to entitle the Go erest therein, including foreign righ	vernment under Paragraph 1(a)
WHEREAS, as to	foreign rights, it is the policy of the Go	overnment to obtain an option to e	xercise such rights;
hereby acknowledge invention within the to said application Government to the	RE, in consideration of the premises and ged, we hereby assign and transfer to the United States of America, its territors and any continuation, division or supend of the term for which said Letters P dd this assignment not been made.	he Government the entire right, ti ies and possessions, and the entire abstitution thereof, and such Lett	itle and interest in and to said right, title and interest in and ers Patent to be held by the
patent applications may file, or cause consideration; prove forms of protection months of the filing the declassification subject to a nonexe may issue on said	grant unto the Government, the option or other forms of protection thereon in a to be filed, applications for Letter yided, however that this grant of an option thereon, shall have force and effect of date of any application for United State of the invention, whichever is later, are clusive, irrevocable, royalty-free licenses invention in any foreign country, incoming furtherance of the foreign policies of	Ill countries foreign to the United S Patent or other forms of protect on to take foreign rights in the inv only as to such applications filed es Letter Patent covering the inven d that all foreign rights exercised o the Government in any patent or luding the power to issue sublice	states in which the Government tion, without payment of any ention, or applications or other in foreign countries within six tion, or within six months from under the option are left to me other form of protection which
statements, or othe or substitution of Government in eve	r agree to make, execute, and deliver r instruments that may be necessary in the application, or any application for may be invention as not by the Government.	ne prosecution of the application ar reissue or extension of said Le	nd of any continuation, division tters Patent, and to assist the
IN TESTIMONY	WHEREOF, We have set our hands and	d affixed our seals.	
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PLUSSES	0	Date 17 Feb	rung 93
ROBERT WOOD	Palin		ibrury 73
GILBERTO IRIZA	ARRY O \		()



Y CASE NO. 78,635

SERIAL NO.

APPLICANT

Relipe Garcia, , Robert Woodald and Gilbert Irizarry

09/030518

Receipt of the following application papers is evidenced hereon by official stamp of the U. S. Patent and Trademark Office: jc523 U.S. PTO

Patent Application

Assignment

Declaration

Application Transmittal Form

l postcard

Specification 21 pgs, 11 claims, abstract 1 pg

3 sheets formal drawings

GILBERT, REC #27331

VONR 5870/51 (Rev.8-94)

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Tile



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY COASTAL SYSTEMS STATION 6703 W HWY 98 CODE CP2L PANAMA CITY FL 32407-7001

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

COASTAL SYSTEMS STATION NAVAL SURFACE WARFARE CENTER 6703 W HWY 98 CODE CP2L PANAMA CITY FL 32407-7001

NAVY CASE NO. 78,635

SERIAL NO.

APPLICANT

Relipe Garcia, , Robert Woodail and Gilbert Irizarry

Receipt of the following application papers is evidenced hereon by official stamp of the U. S. Patent and Trademark Office:

Patent Application Assignment Declaration Application Transmittal Form 1 postcard Specification 21 pgs, 11 claims, abstract 1 pg 3 sheets formal drawings

HARVEY A. GILBERT, REG #27331

NAVONR 5870/51 (Per.8-04)



PATENT

Coastal Systems Station Dahlgren Division Naval Surface Warfare Center Code CP2L 6703 W. Hwy 98 Panama City, FL 32407-7001

COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for filing is the patent application for

Inventor(s): FELIPE GARCIA, ROBERT WOODALL and GILBERTO IRIZARRY

For: LINE CHARGE CONNECTOR

Enclosed are:

sheet(s) of formal drawing(s).
sheet(s) of informal drawing(s).

Assignment of the invention to: The United States of America

represented by the Secretary of the Navy.

Declaration and Power of Attorney.

Information Disclosure Statement with Attachment(s)

CLAIMS AS FILED						
FOR	NUMBER FILED	NUMBER EXTRA	RATE	BASIC FEE \$790.00		
TOTAL CLAIMS	11 =	-0-	x \$22.00 =			
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS	1 =	-0-	x \$82.00 =			
	\$790.00					

- The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit overpayment to Account No. 04-0814.
- Please charge my Deposit Account No. 04-0814 in the amount of \$790.00. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Date: 2/17/98

HARVEY (A. GILBERT Patent Coursel Attorney of Record Registration No. 27331 (850)234-4646



APPLICATION FOR LETTERS PATENT

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

BE IT KNOWN THAT FELIPE GARCIA, a resident of Panama City, ROBERT WOODALL, a resident of Lynn Haven and GILBERTO IRIZARRY, a resident of Panama City Beach, State of Florida, being citizens of the United States of America, have invented certain new and useful improvements of which the following is a specification.

HARVEY A. GILBERT

Attorney of Record

Registration Number 27,331

Coastal Systems Station, Dahlgren Division

Naval Surface Warfare Center

6703 West Highway 98, Code CP2L

Panama City, FL 32407-7001



LINE CHARGE CONNECTOR Statement of Government Interest

The invention described herein may be manufactured and used by or for the Government of the United States of America for governmental purposes without the payment of any royalties thereon or therefor.

Cross Reference to Related Application

This is a continuation in part of copending U. S. patent applications entitled "Line Charge Insensitive Munition

Warhead" by Felipe Garcia et al., U.S. Patent and Trademark

Office Serial No. (NC 78,448), filed and "Reliable and

Effective Line Charge System" by Felipe Garcia et al., U.S.

Patent and Trademark Office Serial No. (NC 78,433), filed and incorporates all references and information thereof by reference herein.

Background of the Invention

This invention relates to deployable munitions. In particular, this invention relates to line charges for clearing mines and obstacles that are made up from explosive segments joined together by connectors which withstand severe deployment forces and position detonation components for each segment to reliably deploy and detonate the line charges.

1	Anti-personnel obstacles and/or mines have been cleared
2	from narrow passageways or lanes using a number of different
3	explosive devices. Among these devices, however, the above
4	referenced line charge system has proven to be one of the most
5	effective. This line charge has a preassembled series of
6	warheads and a common detonating cord extends through them. A
7	rocket motor pulls the line charge across a designated area,
8	the cord is detonated by a fuze, and the exploding warheads
9	clear the obstacles and mines from a lane that extends the
10	length of the line charge. Notwithstanding the effectiveness
11	of this line charge, the firing teams which deploy it and other
12	obstacle breaching systems have found that sometimes obstacles
13	and/or mines must be cleared from lanes that are longer than
14	the lengths of the preassembled line charges. Heretofore,
15	there has been no effective means to rapidly and reliably
16	connect together portable explosive sections of warheads or
17	other explosives to form differently sized line charges for
18	clearing obstacles and mines over longer distances. Connecting
19	some existing breaching systems together has been a laborious
20	task requiring tools to perform necessary modifications. No
21	connector existed to quickly connect two or more parts of a
22	line charge together in an economical and rapid manner while
23	maintaining structural integrity during deployment and

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- 1 preserving critical tolerances needed to transfer explosive
- 2 detonation between parts. Most contemporary line charges are
- 3 built at the factory as complete units without any means to
- 4 connect units together in longer line charges.
- 5 Thus, in accordance with this inventive concept, a need
- 6 has been recognized in the state of the art for connectors that
- 7 interconnect explosive segments of line charges rapidly and
- 8 reliably in the field to form differently sized line charges
- 9 for clearing obstacles and mines over different distances.

10 Summary of the Invention

The invention is directed for providing a connector for segments. A male portion of the connector has coupling elements to connect to strength members of one segment and an axial bore to secure and position one end of detonating cord that extends from the segment. A female portion of the connector has coupling elements to connect to strength members of another segment and an axial bore to secure and position one end of another detonating cord extending from the other segment. A spring clip extends through the female portion and engages part of the male portion which is sized to be inserted in the female portion and engaged by the spring clip. This places the ends of the detonating cords adjacent one another and assures transfer of detonation between them.

- An object of the invention is to provide a connector to join explosive segments of line charges for clearing lanes through mines and obstacles.
- Another object of the invention is to provide a line

 charge having connectors joining explosive segments to allow

 for the modification of the demolition capability of the line

 charge as needed.
- Another object of the invention is to provide rapid and reliable connections of portable explosive segments by a firing team to clear lanes through differently sized areas.
- Another object is to provide a connector between explosive segments of a line charge that withstands deployment loads while assuring detonation of the explosive segments.
- Another object is to provide means of connecting two or more explosive segments in the field without tools.
- Another object of the invention is to provide a connector that assures transfer of detonation between detonation cords and detonation boosters on detonating cords.
- Another object of the invention is to provide a connector that axially and linearly aligns explosive components that transfer detonation among explosive segments of a line charge.
- 22 Another object is to provide a connector that positively 23 locks to ensure structural integrity of line charges.

1 Another object of the invention is to provide lightweight,

١.

- 2 economical, and rapidly coupled connectors between explosive
- 3 segments of a line charge that maintain structural integrity
- 4 during deployment and transfer detonation between the
- 5 detonating cords and boosters of each explosive segment.
- 6 These and other objects of the invention will become more
- 7 readily apparent from the ensuing specification when taken in
- 8 conjunction with the appended claims.

Brief Description of the Drawings

- Figure 1 is a schematic representation of a line charge
- 11 having a plurality of explosive segments joined by connectors
- 12 as it is being deployed across obstacles and mines to clear a
- 13 safe lane.

9

- 14 Figure 2 isometrically depicts a connector having
- separated male and female portions, and the spring clip removed
- 16 from the female portion.
- 17 Figure 3 is a longitudinal cross-sectional view of the
- male and female portions taken generally along lines 3-3 in
- 19 Figure 2 but showing the male and female portions connected
- 20 together by the spring clip.
- 21 Figure 4 is an enlarged cross-sectional view taken along
- 22 lines 4-4 in Figure 3 showing spring clip on large and small

clip rails in the female portion engaging the groove of the male portion.

Description of the Preferred Embodiment

Referring to Figure 1 of the drawings, line charge 10 is schematically depicted being deployed by an interconnected rocket motor 11. Motor 11 pulls line charge 10 across an area laden with mines and other obstacles that block or interfere with free passage through it. Detonation of the deployed line charge 10 clears a safe and uncluttered passageway.

Line charge 10 includes a plurality of elongate explosive segments 15 coupled together by a plurality of interposed connectors 20. Only three explosive segments 15 are shown coupled together by two connectors 20; it is understood that more or less could be joined by an appropriate number of connectors 20 to clear longer or shorter paths as needed.

Each explosive segment 15 contains a number of serially arranged explosive charges or warheads 15' that are each appropriately connected to elongate flexible strength members 16 and 17 that extend from one end to the other end. Only a few explosive charges or warheads 15' are shown in the leftmost explosive segment 15 in Figure 1 to avoid unnecessary distraction from this invention; it is understood that each explosive segment 15 contains as many such charges 15' as are

- 1 needed to successfully complete different missions as they
- 2 arise. The explosive charges are selected from a wide variety
- 3 of explosive materials and are appropriately sized and spaced
- 4 apart to accomplish the task at hand. Strength members 16 and
- 5 17 are suitably sized natural or manmade flexible lines or
- 6 cables, e. g., nylon or metal strands, to provide support
- 7 during the severe loading encountered as line charge 10 is
- 8 deployed.
- 9 The explosives of each explosive segment 15 are detonated
- 10 by detonating cord 18 that extends the length of each explosive
- 11 segment 15. Detonating cord 18 is, preferably, routed through
- 12 openings in each explosive charge contained in each explosive
- 13 segment 15. Consequently, when each detonating cord 18 is
- 14 detonated, all the explosive charges in all explosive segments
- are exploded virtually simultaneously.
- 16 Clearing a lane through an area requires that line charge
- 17 10 is emplaced to lie across the area. Then, it is detonated.
- 18 A proven method of accurately emplacing line charge 10 relies
- on coupling rocket motor 11 to one end and a drag or an
- anchoring device 50 to the other end. Anchoring device 50 may
- 21 be a fixed solid structure at the near side of the area, a
- 22 drogue chute, or a combination of the two, for example. Rocket
- 23 motor 11 is aimed to cross the obstructed area. When it is

- fired, it accelerates rapidly and pulls line charge 10 along with it. Anchoring device 50 may stop line charge 10 violently from going further. During the launching and stopping phases, connectors 20 hold strength members 16 and 17 of explosive segments 15 together. Initiation of detonation in detonation cord and detonation cord boosters 18 by fuze 19 detonates line charge 10 throughout to break up, blow-out-of-the-way, and/or detonate the obstacles/mines.
 - Referring to Figure 2, connector 20, fabricated in accordance with this invention, gives the firing team that deploys line charge 10 the capability to change it in the field for different breaching operations. Explosive segments 15 can be carried by the firing team to the area to be breached. All that the team needs to do is merely add or take away explosive segments 15 by connecting the mating portions of male and female portions 25 and 30 of connector 20 via spring clip 40.

Male portion 25 is secured to end portions 16a and 17a of strength members 16 and 17 of explosive segment 15 via a pair of metal or synthetic ring-shaped clamps 26 that may have rounded or flat, strap-like cross-sectional shapes. Clamps 26 may be rigid, but more likely are adjustable with mutually engaging sections tightened and/or otherwise secured to couple end portions 16a and 17a of strength members 16 and 17 to male

- 1 portion 25. End portions 16a and 17a are wrapped about clamps
- 2 26. The wrapped clamps 26 are slid along outer surface 25a of
- 3 male portion 25 toward annular rim 27 which radially extends
- 4 from male portion 25. Clamps 26 clamp end portions 16a and 17a
- on knurled surfaces 25b on outer surface 25a of male portion
- 6 25. In addition, if clamps 26 are positioned next to annular
- 7 rim 27, clamps 26 also clamp end portions 16a and 17a against
- 8 annular rim 27. This mechanical cooperation secures male
- 9 portion 25 to strength members 16 and 17 of one explosive
- 10 segment 15.
- 11 Female portion 30 is secured to end portions 16a' and 17a'
- of strength members 16' and 17' of explosive segment 15' via a
- pair of metal or synthetic clamps 31 that may have rounded or
- 14 flat, strap-like cross-sectional shapes. Clamps 31 may be
- rigid, but more likely are adjustable with mutually engaging
- sections. End portions 16a' and 17a' are wrapped about clamps
- 17 31. The wrapped clamps 31 are slid along outer surface 30a of
- 18 female portion 30 toward annular rim 32 which radially extends
- 19 from female portion 30. Clamps 31 clamp end portions 16a' and
- 20 17a' on knurled surfaces 30b on outer surface 30a of female
- 21 portion 30. In addition, if clamps 31 are positioned next to
- 22 annular rim 32, clamps 31 also clamp end portions 16a' and 17a'
- 23 against annular rim 32. This mechanical cooperation secures

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- female portion 30 to strength members 16' and 17' of another
 explosive segment 15. No tolls are needed to connect the male
 and female portions 25 and 30 together.
- 4 If, however, the mating portions of connector 20 have not been previously mounted on ends of strength members 16 and 17, 5 6 this mounting can be done in the field by the firing team with 7 small hand tools. The firing team can quickly attach male and 8 female portions 25 and 30 to opposite ends of strength members 16 and 17 by merely sliding clamps 26 and 31 off of male and 9 female portions 25 and 30, looping end portions 16a and 17a and 10 16a' and 17a' of strength members 16 and 17 through rings 26 11 12 and 31, respectively. Next, clamps 26 and wrapped ends 16a and 17a are respectively slid along surfaces 25a and 25b to rim 27, 13 14 and clamps 31 and wrapped ends 16a' and 17a' are slid along 15 surfaces 30a and 30b to rim 32.
 - Detonating cord 18 is secured into bores 28 and 33 of male and female portions 25 and 30 in the factory using epoxy 28" and 35' in bores 28' and 35. Detonating cord 18 is secured into bores 28 and 33 of male and female portions 25 and 30 in the field by frictionally fitting and engaging detonating cord 18 in bores 28 and 35, see Figure 3. Bores 28 and 33 are sized to frictionally engage the lateral surfaces of opposite ends 18a and 18b of detonating cords 18 or detonating cord boosters

- 1 18' attached to detonating cords 18 of each explosive segment
- 2 15. The frictional engagement is such as to hold opposite ends
- 3 18a and 18b in close proximity when male and female portions 25
- 4 and 30 are coupled together by spring clip 40. This close
- 5 proximity of ends 18a and 18b is within predetermined tolerance
- 6 limits required to assure transfer of detonation between
- 7 adjacent explosive segments. These tolerances are maintained
- 8 by precisely engaging and locating end portions 18a and 18b of
- 9 the detonating cords by the critically sized bores 28 and 33 in
- male and female portions 25 and 30. Consequently, when
- detonation of the line charge is initiated by detonating the
- 12 detonating cord in one explosive segment, detonation of all the
- interconnected explosive segments will occur virtually
- 14 simultaneously. Note that frictional connection in the field
- is not as reliable to maintain critical tolerances as the epoxy
- 16 method performed at the factory.
- Details of male and female portions 25 and 30 are shown in
- 18 Figures 3 and 4. Male and female portions 25 and 30 that have
- 19 been previously mounted on opposite ends of strength members
- 20 16, 17, 16', and 17' of two explosive segments 15 are easily
- 21 connected together by spring biased legs 40a of spring clips
- 22 40. Legs 40a interlock annular groove 29 machined in elongate

- 1 part 25' of male portion 25. Interlocking legs 40a in groove
- 2 29 secure male and female portions 25 and 30 together.
- 3 Spring clip 40 is releasably mounted in female portion 30
- 4 during storage and transit. Spring clip 40 is retained on
- 5 large clip rail 30' and small clip rail 30" to extend through
- 6 female portion 30. Large and small clip rails 30' and 30" are
- 7 formed in female portion 30 when parts of it are machined-away
- 8 to create openings 36. Legs 40a of clip 40 reach through
- 9 openings 36 and into bore 34 of female portion 30.
- All that is needed to connect male and female portions 25
- and 30 together is to insert elongate part 25' of male portion
- 12 25 into bore 34 of female portion 30. Tapered front section
- 25" spreads legs 40a apart as elongate part 25' of male portion
- 14 25 is being inserted in bore 34. When legs 40a become radially
- aligned with portions of annular groove 29 in male portion 25,
- legs 40a of spring clip 40 snap into annular groove 29 to
- 17 interlock male portion 25 in female portion 30. This occurs
- without any tools or unnecessary delay.
- Female portion 30 is made of aluminum alloy 6061-T651 a
- 20 lightweight material that is strong enough to sustain the
- 21 deployment loads associated with deployment by rocket motor 11.
- Other suitable lightweight and strong materials could be used,
- e. g., nylon, space-age plastics, combinations of such

materials, etc. Female portion 30 is anodized to limit 1 corrosion potential in moist salt environments and to create a 2 low friction sliding surface which eases insertion of elongate 3 part 25' of male portion 25 into bore 34 of female portion 30. 4 Bore 34 is appropriately sized to allow male portion 25 to 5 slide into and fit inside of it and is aligned with the other 6 bores of female portion 30. Female portion 30 has a third bore 7 35 for passing end portion 18b of detonating cord 18 through it 8 and feeding it to aligned bore 33. Bore 33 is narrower than 9 bore 34 to secure and position end portion 18b of detonation 10 11 cord 18. Male portion 25 also is made of aluminum alloy 6061-T651 12 in order to sustain the deployment loads associated with rocket 13 deployment. Other suitable lightweight and strong materials 14 could be used, e. g., nylon, space-age plastics, combinations 15 of such materials, etc. Male portion 25 is also anodized to 16 17 limit corrosion potential in moist salt environments and to create a low friction sliding surface to ease insertion of 18 elongate part 25' into bore 34 of female portion 30. Tapered 19 front section 25" of male portion 25 is cone-shaped to 20 facilitate alignment and ease of insertion into bore 34 of 21 female portion 30. As mentioned above, annular groove 29 is 22 23 provided adjacent tapered front section 25" of male portion 25

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- to receive spring clip 40 for interlocking and holding male and female portions 25 and 30 together. Bore 28 of male portion 25 is appropriately sized to align and position end portions 18a and 18b of detonating cords 18 in male and female portions 25 and 30 18 to assure uninterrupted, continuous detonation between adjacent explosive segments 15 of line charge 10. Optionally, to enhance reliability of detonation between adjacent explosive segments 15, detonating boosters 18' may be
- in male portion 25 and female portion 30. When detonating boosters 18' are included on detonating cords 18 in male and female portions 25 and 30, ends 18a and 18b will be the ends of detonating boosters 18'.

crimped or otherwise suitably attached to detonating cords 18

Male portion 25 has a second bore 28' that may be filled with a suitable bonding agent 28", such as epoxy, to secure detonating cord 18 after it passes through opening 27" of plug 27'. This filling with a suitable bonding agent will occur when male portion 25 is assembled and attached to explosive segment 15 at the factory. When connectors 20 might have to be secured to explosive segments 15 in the field, bonding agent 28" may have to be dispensed with. End portion 18a of detonating cord 18 is additionally secured in male portion 25 by being frictionally engaged in aligned bore 28.

Third bore 35 of female portion 30 may be filled with a suitable bonding agent 35', such as epoxy, to secure detonating cord 18 after it passes through opening 32" of plug 32'. filling with a suitable bonding agent will occur when female portion 30 is assembled and attached to explosive segment 15 at the factory. When connectors 20 might have to be secured to explosive segments 15 in the field, bonding agent 35' may have to be dispensed with. End portion 18b of detonating cord 18 is additionally secured in female portion 30 by being frictionally engaged in aligned bore 33.

When male portion 25 is fitted in female portion 30 and spring clip 40 engages groove 29, end portions 18a and 18b of detonation cords 18 and detonating boosters 18' of adjacent explosive segments 15 are aligned and sufficiently in contact or close proximity with each other to assure mutual detonation. This proximity between end portions throughout line charge 10 will assure detonation of all explosive segments 15.

The advantages of connector 20 in line charges 10 over previous explosive systems and methods of deployment are numerous. Connector 20 allows for the rapid connection of two explosive segments 15 by the firing team in the field to allow several explosive segments 15 to be carried separately, so that the firing team can carry the total payload in containers

carried by individual soldiers. Connector 20 provides a light 1 2 weight, economical, and rapid connection method for connecting together multiple line charge segments without the need for 3 tools. Connector 20 maintains critical tolerances between 4 5 detonating cord boosters and detonating cords to assure 6 explosive transfer. Strength members of adjacent segments 15 7 may be attached to the connector in an effective manner. 8 Connector 20 provides axial and linear self alignment of 9 explosive components needed for the transfer of a detonation from one line explosive segment to the next. Connector 20 10 11 provides a positive lock thereby ensuring line charge 12 structural integrity. Connector 20 also provides for low friction at the sliding interfaces between male and female 13 portions 25 and 30. Additionally, the knurling provided on the 14 exterior surfaces increases the frictional forces that rings 26 15 16 and 31 and rims 27 and 32 exert when attached to strength 17 members 16 of explosive segments 15 of line charge 10. 18 In the representative embodiment set out herein, only two 19 strength members 16 were shown in each explosive segment 15 20 only for the purpose of an example. Other arrangements and 21 numbers of strength members could be interconnected to 22 connector 20 in accordance with this invention. In addition, 23 this invention not only is capable of coupling explosive

1 segments together. These segments might be, for example, 2 segments of an aerially deployed life line containing strong lines or hawsers, segments of electrical power cables, or 3 4 segments of water or POL supply hoses. When connected 5 according to this invention, the joined segmented structure can 6 reach across barriers or other impasses. The connector of this 7 invention can be modified to provide these capabilities and 8 still be within the scope of this inventive concept. 9 Connector 20 joining explosive segments 15 of line charge 10 10 has been described using an exemplary arrangement of 11 components. This arrangement is not to be construed as 12 limiting, but rather is intended for demonstrating this 13 inventive concept. The disclosed components and their 14 arrangements as disclosed herein all contribute to the novel 15 features of this invention. These novel features assure more 16 reliable and effective deployment of multi capable line charges 17 10 to successfully complete different missions as they arise. It is to be understood that the configuration of the components 18 19 of connector 20 could be modified to accommodate different 20 applications and still be within the scope of this inventive 21 concept. In addition, different materials could be selected to 22 provide sufficient strength and durability for the task at hand 23 without departing from the scope of this invention. If elastic

- limits of the strength members or other materials used in the
- 2 construction of the original embodiment are exceeded during
- 3 deployment, then alternative materials may be used to account
- 4 for increased loading rates.
- 5 Therefore, it is to be understood that, having the
- 6 teachings of this invention in mind, one skilled in the art to
- 7 which this invention pertains can select other combinations of
- 8 materials and arrangements thereof and still be within the
- 9 scope of this invention. Similarly, the capabilities of the
- 10 invention that were disclosed herein were selected for
- 11 demonstration of some salient features of this invention. They
- 12 are not to be construed to limit the scope of this invention.
- 13 It should be readily understood that many modifications
- and variations of the present invention are possible within the
- purview of the claimed invention. It is to be understood that
- 16 within the scope of the appended claims the invention may be
- 17 practiced otherwise than as specifically described.

I claim:

- 1 <u>Claim 1</u> A connector for segments comprising:
- a male portion having coupling elements to attach strength
- 3 members of one segment thereto and an axial bore to secure and
- 4 position one end of detonating cord extending from said
- 5 segment;
- a female portion having coupling elements to attach
- 7 strength members of another segment thereto and an axial bore
- 8 to secure and position one end of another detonating cord
- 9 extending from said other segment; and
- a spring clip extending through said female portion to
- 11 engage part of said male portion, said part of said male
- 12 portion being sized to be inserted in said female portion and
- engaged by said spring clip to place said ends of said
- 14 detonating cords adjacent one another to assure transfer of
- detonation between them.
 - 1 Claim 2 An apparatus according to claim 1 in which said male
 - 2 and female portions adjacently position said ends of said
 - 3 detonating cords to transfer detonation between said detonating
 - 4 cords and said detonation cords have detonation boosters
 - 5 attached thereto.

- 1 Claim 3 An apparatus according to claim 2 in which said
- 2 coupling elements are an annular rim radially extending from
- 3 said female portion and clamps engaging lengths of said
- 4 strength between said clamps and said annular rim.
- 1 Claim 4 An apparatus according to claim 3 in which said
- 2 female portion has a second bore sized to receive said part of
- 3 said male portion therein and said spring clip has leg portions
- 4 extending into said second bore of said female portion.
- 1 Claim 5 An apparatus according to claim 4 in which said part
- 2 of said male portion has a tapered section to ease insertion in
- 3 said second bore and spread said leg portions apart and said
- 4 part of said male portion is provided with an annular groove
- 5 sized to receive said spring clip to interlock said male and
- 6 female portions together.
- 1 Claim 6 An apparatus according to claim 5 in which said
- 2 female portion has its outed surface knurled to help engage
- 3 said strength members and said male and female portions are
- 4 anodized to ease mutual interconnection and resist corrosion.

- 1 Claim 7 An apparatus according to claim 6 in which said male
- 2 and female portions each have enlarged bores next to said axial
- 3 bores to pass lengths of said detonating cords to said axial
- 4 bores and to reduce weight.
- 1 Claim 8 An apparatus according to claim 7 in which said male
- 2 and female portions are cylindrically-shaped and are fabricated
- 3 to reduce drag during deployment.
- 1 Claim 9 An apparatus according to claim 8 in which said male
- 2 and female portions are fabricated from at least one of the
- 3 group of lightweight and strong materials consisting of
- 4 aluminum, nylon, and synthetic plastics.
- 1 Claim 10 An apparatus according to claim 9 in which said
- 2 segments are a plurality of explosive segments coupled together
- 3 by a plurality of said connectors which each secure adjacent
- 4 explosive segments together in an elongate line charge.
- 1 Claim 11 An apparatus according to claim 10 in which said
- 2 ends of said detonating cords are connected to detonation
- 3 boosters to enhance reliability.

Abstract of the Disclosure

A lightweight connector rapidly secures two or more
explosive segments of a line charge together in the field
without requiring tools. Structural integrity during
deployment is maintained and uninterrupted detonation between
the detonating cords or detonating cord boosters of each
explosive segment of the line charge is assured. The connector
includes male and female portions that each engage strength
members of separate, different explosive segments and have
bores adapted to receive and position ends of detonating cords.
A spring clip secures the male and female portions together to
assure structural integrity during deployment and to hold the
ends of the detonation cords or detonation cord boosters
adjacent one another to assure uninterrupted detonation
throughout the line charge. The lightweight line charge made
from interconnected explosive segments and connectors may be
rapidly changed in the field to clear lanes of different
lengths through obstacles and/or mines.



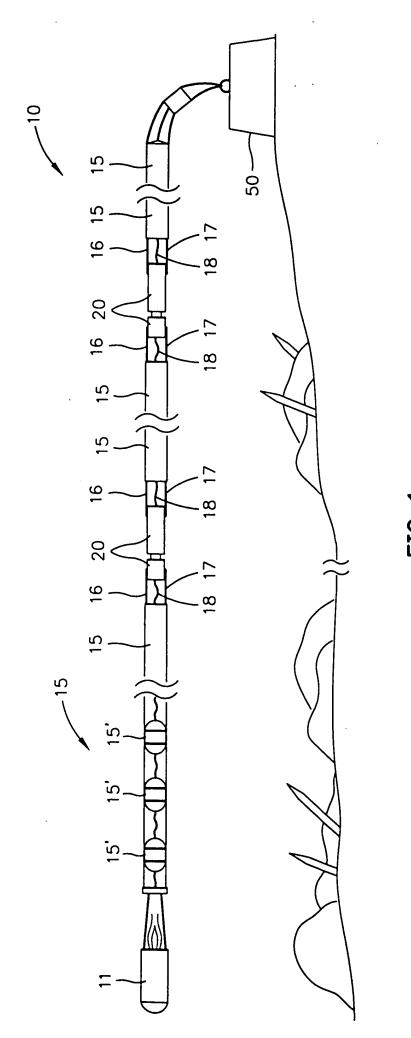
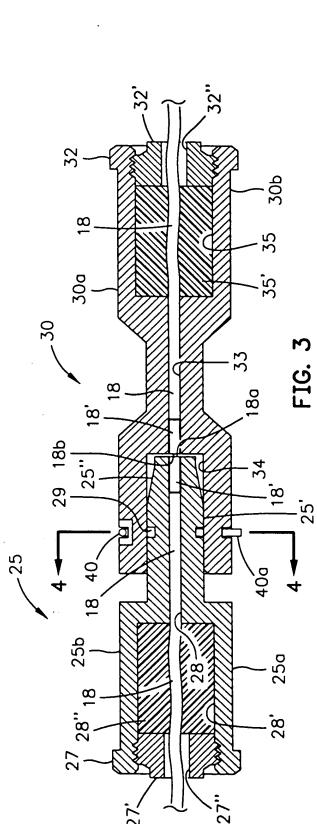
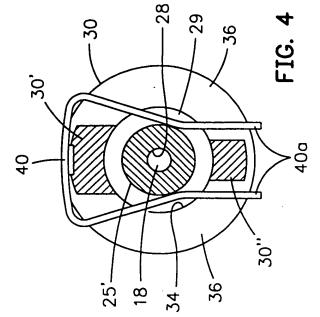


FIG. 1









Navy Case 78,635



As below named inventors, We hereby declare that:

Our residences, post office addresses, and citizenships are as stated below next to our name.

We believe we are the original, first, and joint inventors of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent sought on the invention entitled:

LINE CHARGE CONNECTOR

the specification of which is enclosed.

We hereby state that we have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

We acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56(a).

POWER OF ATTORNEY: As the named inventors, we hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith and hereby certify that the Government of the United States has the irrevocable right to prosecute this application:

HARVEY A. GILBERT Registration No. 27331

SEND CORRESPONDENCE TO:
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We hereby declare that all statements made herein of our own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

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Inventor's signature Cl. Cook deal	Date: 17 Fabruary 9:3
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Additional name(s) of conveying party(ies) attached yes/	Internal Address: Chief of Naval Research, Office of Counsel, Code OOCC				
3. Nature of conveyance:	Street Address: Ballston Tower One				
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A. Patent Application No.(s) B. Patent No.(s)					
Navy Case No.: 78,635 Serial No.:					
Additional numbers atta	achedyes// no				
Name and address of party to whom correspondence concerning document should be mailed:	6. Total number of applications and patents involved: 1				
Name: HARVEY A. GILBERT	7. Total fee (37 CFR 3.41) \$_40.00				
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By: HARVEY A. GILBERT Patent Counsel Registration No. 27331	Date: 2/17/98				
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ASSIGNMENT

WHEREAS, We, FELIPE GARCIA, ROBERT WOODALL, and GILBERTO IRIZARRY while employed by the Government of the United States, have invented certain new and useful improvements in:

LINE CHARGE CONNECTOR

identified as Navy Case No. 78,635 described in applic	ation for Letters Patent of the United States of America executed by
me on February 17	, 19 <u>98</u> ; and
WHEREAS, the Government of the United States, rep the Government, is desirous of acquiring an assignment benefits herein granted; and	resented by the Secretary of the Navy and hereinafter referred to as at of the invention disclosed in said application and other rights and
WHEREAS, the conditions under which the invention of Executive Order 10096, to the entire right, title and	was made are such as to entitle the Government under Paragraph 1(a) interest therein, including foreign rights; and
WHEREAS, as to foreign rights, it is the policy of the	Government to obtain an option to exercise such rights;
hereby acknowledged, we hereby assign and transfer invention within the United States of America, its territo said application and any continuation, division of	is and other good and valuable consideration the receipt of which is to the Government the entire right, title and interest in and to said itories and possessions, and the entire right, title and interest in and substitution thereof, and such Letters Patent to be held by the same would have
patent applications or other forms of protection thereon may file, or cause to be filed, applications for Lett consideration; provided, however that this grant of an of forms of protection thereon, shall have force and effect months of the filing date of any application for United St the declassification of the invention, whichever is later, subject to a nonexclusive, irrevocable, royalty-free licen	ion to take the entire right, title and interest in the invention and all in all countries foreign to the United States in which the Government for Patent or other forms of protection, without payment of any option to take foreign rights in the invention, or applications or other ct only as to such applications filed in foreign countries within six states Letter Patent covering the invention, or within six months from and that all foreign rights exercised under the option are left to me se to the Government in any patent or other form of protection which including the power to issue sublicenses for use in behalf of the es of the Government.
statements, or other instruments that may be necessary i or substitution of the application, or any application	ver to the Government, any and all papers, documents, affidavits, in the prosecution of the application and of any continuation, division for reissue or extension of said Letters Patent, and to assist the s may be requested, provided that any expense arising through such
IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, We have set our hands	and affixed our seals.
ETI IDE CANTIA	Date 17 Fil. 98
ROBERT WOODALL	Date 17 February 98
GILBERTO IRIZARRY	Date 17 February 73
)	

US 0903051809P1



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